

Re: Tour of Ukraine - May 31 - June 27, 1969.

Date: July 3, 1969.

The visitor, a professor of psychology in his mid-forties, visited Kiev, Lviv, and Chernivtsi, where he met his family - his father, sister, brother-in-law. His mother is staying in a hospital in Kolomyg, where the family comes from, and he was not given permission to visit her. The visitor is an American of Ukrainian descent.

1. In Kiev, the visitor called on Prof. Andriy Bilets'kyy, whose address he had been given by a previous tourist. Bilets'kyy spoke of his work in linguistics, the academic scene in Ukraine, inquired about the visitor's work, and such. Although Bilets'kyy is active in Ukrainian scholarship, he is not involved in any protest or opposition movements vis-a-vis Russification.
2. The visitor telephoned Vitaliy Korotych and together they toured Kiev.
3. Having heard that the Lviv Theatre Imeni Zankowets'koyi was performing in Kiev, the visitor asked the ~~Intourist~~ Intourist Office in Hotel Ukraina where he was staying, to obtain a ticket for him. They told him that tickets to all performances were sold out. On his way to the theatre where he hoped to buy a ticket nevertheless, he was met by a number of people all asking him whether he had an extra ticket. On the steps of the theatre, the visitor met an ~~older~~ older man, c. 60 years, who introduced himself as Ivan Pan'ko, a journalist who writes for the magazine Ukraina. Pan'ko arranged for the tourist to sit in the director's box where he himself was to sit. After the performance of Haydamaky, which the audience greeted with great enthusiasm, showering the actors with flowers, Pan'ko and the tourist joined a fairly large group of students in front of the theatre who were singing patriotic Ukrainian songs (mostly Shevchenko lyrics). The tourist also met the director of the theatrical company (doesn't remember his name) and got the impression that he, as well as some of the actors in the troupe, were quite openly in opposition to the process of Russification and for this reason tried to choose a repertoire which could be tied in with the present situation in Ukraine. The audience too understands this and reacts with great enthusiasm or disapproval whenever some parallel can be drawn.
4. Through another visitor to Kiev, the visitor in question met a number of students. He was impressed by the fact that they all speak Ukrainian, are extremely well informed about Ukrainian history and traditions, read the young writers avidly, and are opposed to all manifestations of Russian chauvinism and repression of things Ukrainian. Although their chief means of opposition seem to be singing patriotic songs in public, learning and singing Ukrainian ~~Christmas~~ Christmas carols, learning ~~traditional~~ traditional Ukrainian ~~rituals~~ rituals such as those connected with celebrating the summer festival of Ivan Kupalo, the students seem to be ready for some action of more political nature. Some students expressed the need for an organization, but they spoke of it as something that would be a good thing if it were possible.
5. In Lviv the tourist met Rostyslaw Bratun and was given a tour of the old city by him.
6. In Chernivtsi, where the tourist spent 10 days of his visit to Ukraine, he spent most of his time with his family. His sister told him that a former girl friend of his was now living in Chernivtsi. The tourist went to meet her at her job and made arrangements to meet her and her husband in the evening. During their meeting the husband had to leave for a short time to attend ~~some meeting~~ to some business. After he left them, they noticed that some man was following them. When the husband returned and was told about this, he suggested that they part and not meet again. Next day in the hotel the visitor told one of the Intourist guides with whom he had

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gotten friendly, that he had been followed the previous night. He ~~and~~ also told the guide that he had applied for permission to visit his mother in the hospital in Kolomya and if he was refused, ~~permission~~ he would hire a taxi and go there illegally. Later the same day he was called in to see a man in the hotel who introduced himself as a KGB official. At the beginning of the conversation this official was very friendly, telling him that he had heard that he was complaining of having been followed and assuring him that as a KGB worker he could assure him that this was not the case. The visitor turned this into a joke, telling the KGB official that in a way he was flattered to be followed because this implied that he was important. The KGB official then told him that he had heard that the visitor wanted to visit Kolomya. He offered to help him obtain this permission if he would in turn answer a few questions about Ukrainians abroad. When the visitor refused to do this, the KGB man became a lot less friendly and warned him not to try going there on his own. The conversation ended with the KGB official telling the visitor that he would see what he could do about the trip to Kolomya but nothing came of it. The visitor did not try to go there ~~much~~ on his own. The visitor did not remember the official's name, but thinks that he introduced himself ~~xxx~~ using only his name and patronymic.

7. While in Chernivtsi, the visitor was also approached by a man who wanted an interview for Novosti from him. The visitor did not openly refuse to give the interview, but kept putting it off and in the end did not give it.
8. The visitor had no trouble at customs - either at entering or leaving the country. He was not searched and brought in many English books (Salinger, Tolkien, Updike) as well as records of Ukrainian music released in the West. These he gave to various students and his family.